



MARCH 2004



NAVAL AIR STATION PAX RIVER, BUILDING 2189 ROOM 145, 21866 CEDAR POINT RD, PAX RIVER MD
PHONE (301)757-4100/ 4111 FAX (301) 342-2665
CUSTOMER SERVICE HOURS: MONDAY THRU THURSDAY 0730-1600, FRIDAY 0730-1500

NEW TUITION ASSISTANCE APPLICATION FORMS

Tuition assistance application forms have been updated! The new TA Application form may be completed on-line and printed, downloaded to a disk and then completed on a computer and printed, or printed and completed by hand. Once you open the document, you may want to use the VIEW menu on your toolbar to increase the font size. Since the form is divided into sections by color and some fax machines show color very dark, if you are faxing your document to the Navy College Office, printing in black and white is preferable. You can pick up copies of the new TA application form at the Navy College Office, or you may download the form at the following address:

<https://www.navycollege.navy.mil/ta1.html>



SMART NEWS

Academic courses **completed while on active duty**, which were not funded by Tuition Assistance or Navy College Program for Afloat College Education (NC PACE), may now be listed on your SMART. These courses, funded by the GI Bill, paid for by the service member, or funded by other sources, will appear on the Academic Courses attachment to SMART. They will not appear automatically. There are two ways to have these courses added to SMART:

1. Mail a certified to be true copy, or notarized copy of your transcript to Navy College Center, NETPDTC N2A5, 6490 Saufley Field Road, Pensacola, FL, 32509-5204. Include service member contact information such as phone number or e-mail address.
2. Visit your local Navy College Office (NCO) or Marine Corps Education Center. NCO/Marine Corps Education Center staff will verify authenticity of original/certified to be true/notarized copies of transcripts and fax them to the Navy College Center. NCC will only accept faxed transcripts from a Navy College Office or Marine Corps Education Center.

For more information on the SMART program contact the Navy College Office at 757-4100, or visit our office in Building 2189, Room 145.

CLEP NEWS

Starting in January of 2004 the popular CLEP (College Level Exam Program) tests will be temporarily unavailable in paper form. This is part of a planned phase out of the paper-based exams as they are replaced by an Electronic Computer Based Test (eCBT).

However, due to incompatibility and security issues, the military will not be using the new eCBT system and will be issued all new paper-based exams in April. This means that from January to April 2004 you will not be able to take CLEP exams at Military sites, including the Navy College Office. Service members who wish to take the CLEP exams during that period of time will have to take an eCBT version at a National Testing Center.

For additional information contact the Navy College Office.



ON BASE COLLEGES MOVE TO NEW LOCATIONS

The offices of Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Florida Institute of Technology, University of Maryland University College, and the University of Tennessee Space Institute have all moved to new locations due to the construction on Route 235.

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University is now located outside of gate #2 on North Shangri La Drive. FIT, UMUC, and UTSI are now located in Building **1489**.

For additional information you can contact the individual colleges at the following numbers (telephone numbers have not changes):

Embry Riddle Aeronautical University
301-863-8776

Florida Institute of Technology
301-862-1004

University of Maryland University College
301-737-3228

University of Tennessee Space Institute
301-862-2343

BILLING OR GRADE PROBLEMS?

Contact NETPDTC Accounting Department at:

ta.navy@cnet.navy.mil

Fax:
DSN 922-1149 or
Commercial 850-452-1149

Phone:
DSN 922-1001 x2 x2
Commercial 850-452-1001 x2 x2

Mail:

COMMANDING OFFICER
NETPDTC TA ACCOUNTING N8115
6490 SAUFLEY FIELD ROAD
PENSACOLA, FL 32509-5241

REIMBURSEMENT INFORMATION

Reimbursement of TA funds is required for all failing (F) grades, incomplete (I) grades in effect longer than six months, and voluntary withdrawal (W) grades.

Reimbursement by money order or cashier's check payable to U.S. TREASURER must be mailed to:

COMMANDING OFFICER
NETPDTC TA ACCOUNTING N8115
6490 SAUFLEY FIELD ROAD
PENSACOLA, FL 32509-5241

SOCNAV INFORMATION



SOCNAV (Service members Opportunity Colleges for the Navy) consists of 85 accredited colleges offering specific associate and bachelors degrees to Navy members worldwide through resident courses or distance learning. Colleges taking part in each curriculum area guarantee to accept each other's credits for transfer. The "home" college issues an official evaluation of all prior learning on a SOCNAV Agreement. This agreement serves as the student's long range degree plan.

Why become a SOCNAV student? SOCNAV colleges offer degrees in many different areas (called networks). Students do not lose credits; transferability of courses within the same network is guaranteed from one SOCNAV college to another.

Required residency is kept to a minimum. Many SOCNAV networks are closely related to Navy ratings, resulting in maximum award of credit for Navy training. SOCNAV colleges all over the world can be used to satisfy the degree requirements of the home college.

SOCNAV programs are available at many military installations; distance

learning options are available everywhere. The SOCNAV degree plan prevents the student from duplicating courses already completed.

Contact the Navy College Office for additional information on SOCNAV, or visit the following website:

<http://www.soc.aascu.org/socnav>

TUITION ASSISTANCE UPDATE!

Effective immediately, the Navy will pay 100% of tuition costs and all required fees charged by educational institutions for course enrollments, with the following stipulations:

- A. Payment for tuition and fees will not exceed \$250.00 per semester hour.
- B. There will be a fiscal year funding limit of 12 semester hours (or equivalent) per individual.
- C. TA will cover fees that are published, mandatory and charged for course enrollment.
- D. TA funds will not be used to purchase textbooks or reading materials.

Waivers to semester hour limits will be considered for exceptional circumstances, using procedures outlined in NAVADMIN 349/02. For additional information contact the Navy College Office.

TUITION ASSISTANCE REMINDER!!!!!!

Tuition Assistance Applications **MUST** be turned in prior to the start of the course. Waivers for late TA applications, sometimes called “after-the-fact”, **are NO longer allowed**. This applies to TA applications submitted after the school’s late registration deadline and to TA applications submitted after course completion. **TA will not be authorized after the school’s late registration deadline**. For additional information please contact the Navy College Office.



IMPORTANT TUITION ASSISTANCE POLICY CHANGES!!!!

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS!!!

You may now use Tuition Assistance (TA) for lateral and lower level degree and certificate programs. Tuition Assistance can also now be authorized for all semester hour, quarter hour, and clock hour courses, **including CEU courses (Continuing Education Units)** that lead to a degree and/ or certificate. The courses must be offered by institutions accredited by regional or national accrediting bodies recognized by the Department of Education. This is a brand new policy change and it is effective immediately. Contact the Navy College Office for additional information.

NEW NAVY E-LEARNING WEBSITE

The new Navy E-Learning Websites can help you prepare for advancement and help you earn your college degree. The new web sites <http://www.navylearning.com> and <http://www.navylearning.navy.mil> provide Sailors with greater access to training, education, and professional development information.

The new Navy E-Learning web sites offer more than 800 information technology (IT) courses, 350 soft skill (i.e., leadership and management) courses, and 37 military courses, via a single, integrated portal. The goal of Navy E-Learning is to provide access to courses that provide the knowledge and skills the Navy workforce needs to empower themselves and foster lifelong learning habits. Individuals logging into Navy E-Learning will be able to control the time, place, and extent of learning.

Information on the Navy College Program (NCP) and information from the Navy Advancement Center can be accessed directly via Navy E-Learning. Users can search the catalog for courses by identifying skills or occupations of interest. They can identify personal skills they want to improve, assess their level of proficiency, track improvements and identify Navy E-Learning courses aimed at developing the selected skills. Navy E-Learning will also manage, track and record course usage and completions.

Navy E-Learning is available at no cost to all Department of the Navy personnel that (active duty, reserve personnel, civil service employees and active duty family members.)

Naval personnel with access to the Internet, either from work or home, can access Navy E-Learning 24 hours a day, seven days a week. .



NEW VA LAWS!!!!

Recent legislation significantly affects VA education benefits. A substantial increase in MGIB benefits was enacted.

Also, many veterans previously not eligible will get a second chance to be eligible for MGIB.

View the summary document at:

<http://www.gibill.va.gov/education/News/S1402summary.htm>

Before this law, the military services, through their Tuition Assistance program, generally could pay up to 75% of the tuition or expenses charged by the school. Eligible service members had to find additional financing, or pay the remaining expenses from their own pockets. A service member eligible for the Montgomery GI Bill (MGIB), a VA education benefit, wasn't allowed to receive both Tuition Assistance and the MGIB for the same course.

What does this provision mean to me?

If you're eligible for MGIB, and plan to use Tuition Assistance (TA), you can now use MGIB top-up to pay the balance.

For more information, visit the VA website at:

<http://www.gibill.va.gov/education>

or stop by the Navy College Office.

Tuition Assistance TOP-UP Claims, Addresses, and EFT Information:

VA Form 22-1990 should be submitted only if this is the first claim for VA Education benefits for the student. Subsequent forms other than the Tuition Assistance forms, are not necessary unless you have a new address or are adding or changing EFT (Direct Deposit) information.

This information can be included on any form of correspondence or provided by telephone at 1-888-GIBILL1 after the first payment has been received.

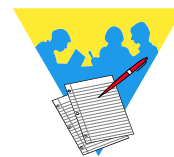
Free Applications For Federal Student Aid

The Free Applications For Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) can be filled out and submitted online at the FAFSA website:

<http://www.fafsa.ed.gov>

TESTING CENTER NEWS

ATTENTION: NOT ALL TESTS ARE IN STOCK! It will take approximately 4-6 weeks for a test to arrive once it has been ordered, so plan ahead! Schedule your tests early to avoid the rush for the upcoming semester. Call 301-757-4111 for scheduling and test date information.



TUITION ASSISTANCE APPLICATION PROCEDURES



1. Select the college you want to attend and classes you want to take. Students who are planning on Tuition Assistance for the first time **MUST** schedule an appointment with the counselor.
2. Pick up the Tuition Assistance (TA) Application form at the Navy College Office (Bldg. 2189, Room 145).
This form can also be accessed at:
www.navycollege.navy.mil
3. Complete and sign the TA application form.

***Student signatures are now required on both the front and back of the TA application form.**
4. Have your Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, or Officer in Charge sign the completed application form.
5. Submit the completed TA form to the Navy College Office. This form can also be faxed to the Navy College Office.
6. The Navy College Office will contact you within 48 hours to pick up the authorized TA document. This form may also be faxed to you.
7. Turn the approved document into the school when you register.

Contact the Navy College Office if you have any questions!!!!

AVAILABLE RESOURCES

The Navy College Office has a variety of new educational resources available for military personnel! Some of the resources available include:

Peterson's Four-Year Colleges,
Peterson's Two-Year Colleges,
Vocational and Technical Schools,
Paying Less for College,
College Money Handbook,
The College Handbook,
College Costs and Financial Aid Handbook,
Scholarships, Grants and Prizes.
These are all excellent resources for your educational needs.

The Navy College Office also has study guides available for all CLEP and DSST tests. They are free of charge for active duty military personnel!!

